

# **IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 2nd November 2008**

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## **Willis Island Dxpedition**

The Willis Island DXpedition finished operations on Saturday 25th October, having made more than 95,000 QSOs on the HF bands.

The group's signals were strong at times in Ireland, and Irish operators, North and South, had over 140 QSOs with the DXpedition. There are a total of 64 EI and GI call signs in the log, with QSOs on all HF bands except 10 metres. Happiest of all must be Dave EI3IO, the only Irish-based operator to achieve QSOs on 8 bands.

Team members are now safely back on the Australian mainland.

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## **Morse Code tests at Mayo Rally**

There will be Morse Code tests available at the upcoming Mayo Rally on the 23rd of November. These tests must be booked in advance by contacting Sean Donelan EI4GK telephone 01 2821420.

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## **New Sunspot**

Four times during October a new-cycle sunspot has breached the sun's surface. In a year of almost no sunspots, four in a single month is a large number, and their association with the new solar cycle is significant.

It is a sign that the sun is beginning a slow ascent out of solar minimum to a more active phase in the months and years ahead. Solar minimum is not a permanent condition!

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## **Howth Martello Radio Group (EI0MAR)**

Last Saturday 25th October, Tony (EI5EM), John (EI7JG) and Pat Herbert, the curator, had the pleasure of welcoming members of South Dublin Radio Club to the vintage radio museum in Howth. The museum is the meeting place of the Howth

Martello Radio Group (EI0MAR). A great time was had by all and Pat Herbert entertained everybody in his own inimitable way by relating the history of the tower and of the development of radio. He illustrated his presentation by referring to many of the exhibits on display.

EI0MAR is QRV on most weekends throughout the year and the museum is open during the winter months from 11 am until 4 pm on Saturdays and Sundays. If any radio club or group would like to pay a visit to the museum, it can be arranged by sending an email to [tony@ei0mar.org](mailto:tony@ei0mar.org) or through the Howth Martello Radio Group's web site [www.ei0mar.org](http://www.ei0mar.org)

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### **AREN Net**

There will be an 80m AREN net on Sunday the 2nd of November at 19:30 hours, all AREN members are requested to participate if possible. The net will be a preparation exercise for the GlobalSET which is scheduled to take place on 8 November.

AREN members will have received an email giving further details about the net on the 2nd of November. If not, please contact John EI7IG at [ei7ig@aren.ie](mailto:ei7ig@aren.ie) or +353868167310

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### **Global Simulated Emergency Test November 2008**

The next IARU EmComm Party on the Air is scheduled for Saturday the 8th of November between 0400 and 0800 hours UTC. The time of each exercise changes to allow more stations to participate from around the world as well as recognising that emergencies can happen at any time

This is an exercise between stations interested in emergency communications and is not a contest. Activity will be concentrated around the IARU Emergency Centre of Activity frequencies which are 3760, 7060, 14300 and 21360 kHz.

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### **South Dublin Radio Club News**

Due to renovations, the club now meets in a local Scout hall. Full details including a map is on the club website: [www.southdublinradioclub.ie](http://www.southdublinradioclub.ie)

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### **Tipperary Amateur Radio Group**

The 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will take place on Wednesday next the 5th of November in Raheen House Hotel, Raheen Road Clonmel. at 8.00 pm All are welcome.

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### **Shannon Basin Radio Club**

The Shannon Basin Radio Club Sprint Challenge will be held on Sunday 30th November between 14:00 and 18:00. Please see [www.shannonbasinradioclub.com](http://www.shannonbasinradioclub.com) for contest rules. Logs to be forwarded to Brian EI8IU at qthr or to [brianei8iu@eircom.net](mailto:brianei8iu@eircom.net)

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### **Rallies**

2nd November: Foyle & District Amateur Radio Club Annual Rally in The White Horse Hotel Campsie, Londonderry Doors open at 11:30 a.m. for Disabled access Main event at 12-noon info [www.mn0aku.org](http://www.mn0aku.org)

Sunday 23rd November: Mayo Radio Rally, Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Rally Director, Padraic Baynes, EI9JA info [www.ei7mre.org](http://www.ei7mre.org)

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### **DX Bulletins**

The Vendee Globe Challenge 1-15 November

Members of the Radio Club Vendeen will be active as TM6VG between November 1-15th.

Activity is to celebrate the 6th sailing race called 'The Vendee Globe Challenge' towards and around the three great capes, marking the southern tips of the African continent, Australia and America.

Activity will be on the HF bands, 160-10 meters, included 30/17/12 meter bands, and VHF 2 meters. Modes will be CW, SSB and various digital modes. QSL via F6KU

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Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Charlie EI8JB, via e-mail to "charlie dot Carolan at gmail dot com. Or by phone to 087-6265418

News can also be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam at irts dot ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the

radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

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